

# Information Pack

## Fly Fishing with Patagonia Anglers Lago Los Torres Lodge, Chile

### Your Hosts

Patagonia Anglers is owned and operated by two U.S. guide services, Elk Creek Outfitters & Anderson Platt Fly Fishing. Our mission is to provide world class fly fishing in the most beautiful setting in the world, Chile's Patagonia Region.

### The Lodge

Lago Los Torres (Lake of the Towers) Lodge was built by German immigrants in the early 1940's who traveled and blazed a trail for 6 weeks from now modern day Coyhaique. It is nestled in a valley at approximately 1,500 feet elevation surrounded by peaks up to 7,500 feet with 5 visible glaciers.

A newly remodeled rustic log house with 5 bedrooms and 2 baths for the guests, a guide lodge, and several cabana's are located on 25,000 acres that border the Rio Travieso and the huge Lago Los Torres mountain lake. The lodge is powered with a hydroelectric generator and is equipped with the modern amenities of home.

### The Fishing

Whether floating down the rivers in our fully equipped and fishing friendly rafts, or wading accessible streams, the diversity of the water in this region provides many opportunities to fish small dries, large terrestrials, nymphs and streamers to trout which have never seen an imitation before. **Throughout our season the most common style of fly fishing done is "spanking the banks" with huge foam terrestrials.** Some of the takes on dry fly will startle you into the hook set. On any given day you have the opportunity to catch trophy rainbows and browns, with the breathtaking snowcapped Andes as a backdrop and numerous waterfalls and glaciers at our fingertips. Through years of research in this region we have created a fishing regiment which affords us to show our guests a new section of water and possibly a new river on each day of fishing. From bountiful nearby rivers, to a lake brimming with trophy brown trout, guests are sure to receive a complete experience of Patagonia fishing.

However pristine and beautiful this area is, it also comes with obstacles. The winds of Patagonia can be your nemesis if you do not prepare for them. We highly recommend taking some time in the yard or nearby water practicing your cast before entering these blue ribbon streams. Try practicing your cast with different wind directions and thus making you more proficient with the conditions in Patagonia. The double haul is an excellent tool for combating the afternoon winds and giving you the opportunity to catch the fish of a lifetime.

## **Travel**

Guests should understand that the area around the lodge is remote with limited contact to any towns or to the United States. Guests will have access to a satellite phone. In case of any medical emergencies there is a modern medical facility in Coyhaique which is a 2 hour drive.

We encourage guests to travel light as possible with bags that can be handled and packed with ease. Soft luggage such as duffle and fishing bags work well. Most airlines allow 2 bags not exceeding 50 lbs.(w/o additional charges) and a carry-on item not more than 10 lbs.

## **Flight Information**

Overnight flights from the United States connect through Santiago to Balmaceda. A representative of Patagonia Anglers will be at the Balmaceda airport to greet you with a cooler of refreshments. You will then be driven up the scenic Pan American Highway with a stop in Coyhaique (if time allows) for a light snack. Leaving Coyhaique there is a 2 hour drive north through some of the most beautiful mountains you have ever seen.

In Santiago, U.S. citizens are asked to pay a fee of \$100 to enter Chile. This may be payed in either cash or Visa/ Master Card. This fee is valid for the duration of the person's stay and should be kept in their passport. **It is VERY IMPORTANT that each traveler secure the entrance visa paper that they receive during their flight to Santiago. This will be stamped entering the country and MUST be present and stamped to leave the country!**

Travelers should retrieve their baggage in Santiago, go through Customs, and then take the elevator to the ticket counters to re-check baggage and check in for the flights to Balmaceda via Puerto Mont. One trick you might try, especially if time is an issue, is to just hand a Porter \$5 and tell him where you need to go. He will safely and very easily get you there! This is a beautiful flight and we recommend getting a seat on the left side of the plane for the views of the Andes throughout the flight.

## **Travel Documents**

A valid passport is all that is required to travel in Chile. As Previously mentioned- **Each traveler should also secure the entrance visa paper, which he or she completed on the flight to Chile, and which is stamped in Chile. It is very important to keep this visa paper inside the passport for the duration of the stay so you can return back to the U.S.**

**It is very important that each guest forward a copy of the picture page of their passport and a copy of their flight itinerary to Patagonia Anglers before leaving home.**

## **Currency**

Travelers may change US dollars to Chilean pesos at the Santiago airport. Visa, Master Card, & American Express are accepted in many but not all businesses. A traveler's pouch worn around the neck and/or a money belt should safeguard money, credit cards, passport, and plane tickets.

## **Weather & Clothing**

Expect a variable climate and dynamic weather conditions at the Lodge. Temperatures range from the mid 50's to the 80's during the day with cool nights. Because this area can have large amounts of rain, it is essential that you come with high quality, breathable, and durable rain gear. Fleece jackets and lightweight polypropylene or capilene underwear can be worn under your raingear and waders. Bring a pair of comfortable hiking shoes with regular socks and wool socks.

When selecting clothing to fish in Patagonia, keep in mind that in normal water conditions the water is crystal clear. Therefore, the fish can see anglers from a long distance, especially if the angler is wearing high-visibility colors like white, red, or yellow. Try to pack fishing clothes in colors such as sage, green, khaki, and blue. ( don't forget about your rain jacket!)

## **Waders & Sunglasses**

Breathable chest waders with felt soled boots (no studded boots) are essential, as is a quality pair of polarized sunglasses. We often have weeks of wonderful summer weather where wet wading is an option so shorts and wet wading gear can come in handy as well.

## **Fly Rods, Reels, & Lines**

For normal fishing conditions a fast action 6 weight rod will suffice. However there will be many windy days that a 7 weight will be your rod of choice. Feel free to bring an 8 weight for streamer fishing as well. As 85% of our fishing will be dry fly fishing be sure to bring a line that floats well. Your streamer rod should be match with a floating line and/or a type 4 (3.5-4.5 inches per second) full sinking line.

## **Leaders and Tippet Material**

Anglers should bring numerous tapered 9 foot leaders ranging from 0X to 3X. Each angler should also be equipped with tippet spool ranging from 1X to 4X. Fluorocarbon tippet material is a good idea.

## **Flies**

Patagonia Angler guides will have all necessary flies for your fishing adventure. However, if you would like to bring some of your own, we would suggest bringing your favorite patterns resembling dragon flies (blues and blacks), grasshoppers, and large black beetles. All these top water flies should be in sizes ranging from 10 – 6. A great beetle pattern is the Taylor's Fat Albert. Large streamers are welcome in sizes 6 - 2.

## **Accessories/Miscellaneous**

Guests should bring an electric converter if you need to plug in any electric devices. In Chile the electric is run on 220 as opposed to our 110. Other items to remember are batteries, a day pack/river bag, sun screen (at least 30 SPF), insect repellent, nippers, hemostats, split shot, fishing vest or pack, lanyard, and plastic bag for dirty clothes. Please pack enough clothes for the week's adventure as we have no washing facilities.

## **Medications, Allergies and Dietary Concerns**

Travelers should pack medications for common ailments such as diarrhea, upset stomach, motion sickness, sleeplessness, allergies, and irregularity. Of course, include any prescription medication that you normally require. The Lodge also has basic medications for common ailments and emergencies. The guides have CPR and first aid certification. Each angler might also wish to purchase emergency medical insurance to treat a major emergency.

**Anyone who has dietary concern, or any food or other allergies, should report these conditions to Patagonia Anglers prior to the trip.**

## **The Trip**

Beginning on Friday, and ending on Thursday, consisting of 6 nights and 5 days of fishing, the price of the trip is \$3750. The price is all inclusive from your arrival to Balmaceda until you depart. This includes lodging, food, beverages, shuttles from and to the airport, and fishing.

## **Dates Running in 2009**

January 2- 8

January 9 – 15

January 16 – 22

January 23 – 29

Jan. 30 – Feb. 5

February 6 – 12(booked)

February 13- 19(booked)

**Please call for availability before booking any flights!**

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